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PTO/SB/21 (02-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 10/802 445 **TRANSMITTAL** Filing Date March 17, 2004 FORM First Named Inventor Roman F. Striebel Art Unit 3654 (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) **Examiner Name** Evan H. Langdon Attorney Docket Number 6623-119 Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance communication Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) to Technology Center (TC) Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers Fee Attached of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC ✓ Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Amendment/Reply Petition to Convert to a **Proprietary Information** After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Change of Correspondence Address Affidavits/declaration(s) Other Enclosure(s) (please **Terminal Disclaimer** Extension of Time Request Identify below): Return postcard Request for Refund **Express Abandonment Request** CD, Number of CD(s) Information Disclosure Statement Remarks Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Jacob N. Erlich Individual name Signature Date July 21, 2006 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. Typed or printed name Jacob N. Erlich Date July 21, 2006 Signature

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Appl. Ser. No. 10/802,445 Atty. Docket No.: 6623-119

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Response to Office Action of April 21, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Thereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 21, 2006.

Jacob N. Erlich Reg. No. 24,338

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Roman F. STRIEBEL, et al.

Examiner: LANGDON, Evan H.

Serial No: 10/802,445

Art Unit: 3654

Filed: March 17, 2004

Docket No.: 6623-119

For: WIRE ROPE CONNECTORS AND TENSIONERS FOR DECK RAILING SYSTEMS

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To: Commissioner of Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Response (C)

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 21, 2006 in the above-captioned U.S. patent application, it is respectfully requested that the following amendments and remarks be considered, as the amendments and remarks place the application in a condition for allowance.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.